



QUEEN ANNE BOULEVARD PROJECT

Workshop #3

Public Process Overview

April 23, 2007

History of the Project

- Genesis of the project:

The **Queen Anne Neighborhood Plan** contains a “Key Strategy” for the Boulevard. “The Crown of Queen Anne Specific Plan will revitalize historic Queen Anne Boulevard for the 21st Century. The Boulevard’s value as an urban trail and needed recreational amenity is well-recognized. It is appreciated by many Queen Anners and visitors for a diverse variety of uses. The Boulevard not only provides automobile access to Upper Queen Anne neighborhoods, but it also provides a recreational and aesthetic amenity to Queen Anners and visitors alike. This historic park street is used at all hours by adults for walking and jogging; it is a strolling path for families with small children; and it provides a place for seniors to exercise. The Boulevard offers shade in the summer, beautiful autumn color in the fall, and an open and sunny landscaped path in the winter. It circulates through all parts of Queen Anne Hill and crosses demographics. The Queen Anne Plan believes that a vital Queen Anne Boulevard will help Queen Anne retain its unique historic character into the 21st Century.”

QACH5 QAP2 - Enhance and Upgrade the Historic Queen Anne Boulevard Pedestrian System - Work with community and Seattle Parks to enhance the Historic Boulevard while preserving the traditional character of each segment. This will ensure appropriate development and maintenance of the historic Boulevard, provide a comprehensive analysis and improvement program for pedestrian facilities. Specific actions will include:

- a) Conduct a comprehensive, interdisciplinary analysis of the Boulevard and needed improvements;
- b) Ensure that there are sidewalks on at least one side of the Boulevard;
- c) Add pedestrian-scale, historic-style lighting in poorly-lit, unsafe segments (see QAP7);
- d) Create user-friendly crossings at major and commonly-used points to encourage walking;
- e) Sign the pedestrian trail as well as the historic Boulevard for safety of all users;
- f) Manage trees consistently and comprehensively for longevity and health as a city legacy;
- g) Enforce parking regulations to stop residents from parking on the Boulevard landscaped rights-of-way and pedestrian paths;
- h) Remove paving outside the street section;
- i) Remove unnecessary paving within the street section (where traffic revisions were once paved over);

- j) Install Landmarks Board-approved curbing and drainage improvements to reestablish the street edge and ensure that it remains intact; and
Remove encroaching vegetation or prune back overhanging vegetation.

QAP7 - Lighting for Historic Queen Anne Boulevard - Add lighting to segments of the Blvd. presently with unsafe lighting levels for pedestrian use and jogging. Keep lighting consistent with design character established on the Wilcox Wall to enhance identity and recognition of the Blvd. Wilcox Wall lighting is period sensitive and pedestrian scale and would provide safe access while not reducing views and visibility.

QAP15 -Prioritize the Removal of Encroachments on the Historic Boulevard and Queen Anne Parks - Implement the removal of encroachments in a timely manner.

QAT69 - Maintenance - Sidewalks- City should provide improved maintenance of sidewalks in all areas of Queen Anne.

In November 2000, Seattle voters approved a \$198.2 million levy lid lift for Parks, including \$500,000 for Queen Anne Boulevard.

Pro Parks Levy Language – Update the Historic Queen Anne Boulevard including pedestrian amenities, lighting, landscaping, etc.

CIP Statement – This project, part of the 2000 Parks Levy, upgrades the historic Queen Anne Boulevard with pedestrian amenities, lighting, and landscaping. The scope of work for this project is to be developed through a community process, working within the budget identified below and other non-levy fund sources that become available. Operations and maintenance costs associated with 2000 Parks Levy projects are to be funded out of levy proceeds through 2008.

Elements open/not open to public comment, and why:

- Projects are governed by the City's Land Use Code. As a City agency, Parks is required to follow the Code.
- Parks has many policies, design standards and technical specifications for construction that are in place to ensure safety and durability.

Public process conducted on the project to date:

- Significant community outreach contributed to the development and review of the Queen Anne Neighborhood Plan. City Council held public hearing on the plan prior to recognizing it through resolution.
- Parks staff met with the Queen Anne Community Council Parks and Transportation Committees to solicit comments on a proposed focus of the project.
- Parks held the first public meeting in September to solicit comments on the scope of the project. Notes from that meeting are posted on the project web.
- Parks held a second public meeting in November to solicit feedback on options for addressing the comments. Notes are posted on the project web.

- Who Parks notified about the meeting and the sources of the list:
 - Parks sent meeting notification to carrier routes within ¼ mile from the site.
 - Parks notified the Queen Anne Community Council of this meeting.
 - Park posted a notice at the site.
 - Parks sent notices to people who signed up at the previous meeting.
 - Parks sent a press release to Seattle Time and Post Intelligencer and other city newspapers.
 - Meetings are posted on the Project Web site.
- Milestone and decisions made to date, if any:
 - Based on comments received at the November meeting, emails, and letters, Parks is proposing the improvements presented at tonight's meeting.

Explanation of how decisions are made.

- How Parks uses input from the public
 - Parks considers public input will be used to define the scope and design.
- What impact that input has on a project
 - Parks considers public input will be used to define scope and design of improvements.
- How “majority” opinions will figure in decisions:
 - If a majority of meeting attendees indicates a preference, this may be used to define or confirm the design direction.
 - In instances where a “majority” opinion conflicts with previous “majority” opinions, the conflict will be considered by Parks internal review committees that may include ProView, ProView Tech or Project Steering.
 - In all cases, opinions are advisory to the Parks decision making process that includes internal technical review (ProView and ProView Tech) where Park policies, procedures and standards are considered.

Factors that may have an impact on the outcome, including:

- Safety Issues – Safety issues are considered by the consultant, project manager and Parks technical review committees during design.
- Mayoral priorities – None known
- City Council Actions – No further Council action is anticipated.
- Voter approval – Voters approved the Levy description.
- An existing adopted plan – The Queen Anne Neighborhood Plan was endorsed by City Council. The Boulevard is a designated City Landmark. Parks must get a Certificate of Approval before construction.
- Budget limitations – All costs for design, construction and project management must be paid from the \$500,000 project funds. Decisions on the scope of the project and materials may be limited by the budget.
- Regional need – Not Applicable

Budget source, and amount, impact on project scope

- In 2000, Seattle voters approved a \$198.2 million levy lid lift for Parks and Recreation, including \$500,000 for this project.

Timelines: upcoming steps in the process, points at which Parks will invite comment

- This is the third and final public meeting to guide final design. Parks will distribute notes from this meeting, a project summary and the final design to all who have attended the public meetings.

After the public involvement process is over, Parks will make a decision and proceed to implement it.